

## OBITUARY

### SIR WILLIAM WATSON CHEYNE

BORN DECEMBER 14, 1852—DIED APRIL 19, 1932

Sir William Watson Cheyne was educated at Edinburgh University. In October, 1876, having spent the greater part of the year in Vienna and Strasburg, he became Lister's house surgeon. When Lister left Edinburgh for Kings College Hospital in London, he stipulated that he should be permitted to take four of his assistants with him. Watson Cheyne was one and served as his first house surgeon in London where he shared the early unpopularity of his chief. He wrote of the trials of those early years in the Listerian lecture in 1925.

He became Hunterian professor in the Royal College of Surgeons in 1888-1890 and was its president in 1914-1917 and held the position of professor of clinical surgery, Kings College, London, after the resignation of Lister. He was consulting surgeon to forces in South Africa in 1900-1901 and was created Baronet in 1908 on account of important work in that war. He represented the Universities of Edinburgh and St. Andrews, 1917, in Parliament. He was consulting surgeon R.N. 1914-1915, Temp. Surgeon General since 1915 and subsequently Rear-Admiral.

His connection with the *Annals of Surgery*, where he served for twenty years (1903-1922) as collaborating editor, is given by Dr. Pilcher in "The Story of the Annals," published in that journal in 1925. He was elected an Honorary Fellow of the Academy of Medicine in New York in 1904.

The name of Watson Cheyne will always be associated with the name of his great chief Lister. He ably and loyally followed and furthered his teachings and made important contributions himself in the early days to the science

of bacteriology. His work on numerical relation of staphylococci to infection is still quoted in all standard text books on microorganisms. A curious instance of his enthusiasm in working out the problems of infection in the early days is given in the transactions of the Pathological Society of London in 1879. He made cultures from various abscesses on cucumber infusion and injected into his own arm, on two occasions, one and five minims of a culture of micrococci. He estimated that each minim contained at least two million microbes. It is interesting that no appreciable local or general reaction was recorded.

His later works are admirable and sound monographs on subjects such as "Antiseptic Surgery; Its Principles, Practise, History and Results," the "Treatment of Wounds, Ulcers and Abscesses," lectures on Suppuration and Septic Disease and the "Manual of Surgical Treatment" written with Burghard in eight volumes.

WALTON MARTIN

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## DEATHS OF FELLOWS OF THE ACADEMY

STEPHEN SMITH BURT, M.D., 30 West 71 Street, New York City; graduated in medicine from the College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York City, in 1875; elected a Fellow of the Academy April 1, 1886; died, March 26, 1932. Dr. Burt was Professor Emeritus of Medicine and Physical Diagnosis at the Post-Graduate Medical School and Hospital and a member of the County and State Medical Societies.

WILLIAM PHELAN DRISCOLL, M.D., 37 East 64 Street, New York City; graduated in medicine from Yale University Medical College, in 1919; elected a Fellow of the Academy January 6, 1927; died, March 29, 1932. Dr. Driscoll was a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons, a member of the County and State Medical Societies, Assistant Obstetrician to Bellevue Hospital and Berwind Free Maternity Clinic, Adjunct Assistant Gynecologist to Woman's Hospital, Hematologist to Misericordia Hospital, and Chief Clinician to Woman's Hospital, Out Patient Department.

HERMAN RUDOLF ALEXANDER GRAESER, M.D., 131 East 93 Street, New York City; graduated in medicine from the College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York City, in 1898; elected a Fellow of the Academy February 7, 1907; died, April 7, 1932. Dr. Graeser was a Fellow of the American